

Sport

Acme Div II cricket result

**Sports Reporter**  
Kalindi Krira Chakra, Kakrail Boys Club, Orient Sporting Club, Shantinagar 'A' and Young Ones won their respective Acme Second Division cricket league matches held at different venues in the city yesterday.

At the Uttara Friends Club ground, Kalindi Krira Chakra defeated Nawabganj Sporting Club by 74 runs.

Put into bat first, Kalindi garnered 216 in 39 overs before being all out with middle-order batsman Jalal scoring highest 43 off 42 balls. Opener Arman (34) and one-down Pavel Nizami (29) were the other notable run-getters. In reply, Nawabganj were bundled out for 142 in 32.3 in the face of some accurate bowling by Rubel and Selim. The two evenly shared six wickets conceding 23 and 36 runs respectively.

At the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Kakrail Boys handed DOHS a 18-run defeat.

Batting first, Kakrail piled up 234 for seven in their stipulated 40 overs with one-down Siddiqui Rahman scoring highest 70. In reply, DOHS were all out in 39 overs with the scoreboard reading 215 runs.

A brilliant bowling by Orient Sporting Club medium pacer Mahmud Faisal steered his side to a 48-run victory over Lalbagh Anwar Sporting Club at the Dhanmondi Club ground. Defending a poor total of 134, Faisal snared seven Lalbagh wickets conceding only 19 runs in eight overs to seal the fate of the match.

In the day's other two matches, Shantinagar 'A' outplayed Gandaria Cricketers by eight wickets on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Young Ones registered a marginal ten-run win over Nabin Sangha at the T&T ground in Mahakhali.

Tasmania trounced

**SYDNEY, Jan 27:** Opener Mike Hussey helped Western Australia move six points clear at the top of Sheffield Shield table by guiding them to victory against Tasmania today, reports Reuter.

Hussey added to his first innings 83 with a patient 87, including 13 fours, as Western Australia recorded a seven-wicket win at Bellerive Oval in Hobart.

Chasing a target of 178 for victory, the visitors progressed cautiously to 180 for three in 52 overs after starting the fourth and final day of the match on 27 without loss.

The victory, worth six points, lifted Western Australia clear of New South Wales and Queensland, who share second place in the competition with 20 points.

At Western Australia's celebrations were tempered by an injury to fast bowler Brendan Julian, who strained a muscle in his side and is expected to be out of action for two weeks.

Tasmania earned two points for a first innings lead after dismissing Western Australia for 312, two runs short of their own total, earlier in the match.

Western Australia captain and all-rounder Tom Moody paved the way for the victory on Sunday when he took seven for 41 as Tasmania were dismissed 175 in their second innings.

Anwar passes away

Former national coach and footballer Anwar Hossain died of heart attack at a city hospital on Sunday, reports BSS.

His *namaj-e-Janazas* were at the Baitul Mokarram National Mosque and the premises of National Sports Council. He was buried at Azimpur Graveyard.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Culture Obaidul Quader, National Sports Council, Bangladesh Football Federation and Bangladesh Weightlifting Federation condoned the death of Anwar Hossain, who has a lot of contribution in Bangladesh football.

They expressed their deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

University Games

Dutch dominance continues

**SEOUL, Jan 27:** The Netherlands continued their winning streak Monday in the Winter University Games, winning two gold and one silver medals in the men's and women's 1,500-metre speed skating races, reports AP.

In the women's 10-kilometre cross country race, Japan's Tomomi Otake beat two Russians to the gold. Slovenia's Anja Potisk-Ribic beat compatriot Anja Kalan and American Katherine Davenport to the gold in the women's alpine skiing downhill race.

Men's 1,500-metre speed skating winner Jan Nijboer set the game record, at 1 minute, 57.28 seconds, 1.71 seconds ahead of compatriot Patrick Van Falier.

The bronze by Lee Kyuhyuk, who clocked in at 1 minute, 58.99 seconds, was South Korea's only medal win for the day at Chonju, 200 kilometres (125 miles) south of Seoul.

Renate Groenewold continued Netherlands' strong showing, beating China's Yang Zu to the gold in the women's 1,500-metre race. Groenewold's 2 minute, 9.69 second time was a new University Games record.

It was the second gold medal for Groenewold, who had won the 3,000-metre speed skating race Sunday.

Englishmen hold fast



**AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 27:** England moved onto a potential winning position late on the fourth day of the opening cricket Test with New Zealand on Monday at Eden Park, reports AP.

New Zealand will start the final day Tuesday at 56 for three, still needing a further 75 to make England bat a second time. England was 521 all out before leaving New Zealand about 90 minutes to bat.

That gave the tourists a 131-run lead and bowlers Dominic Cork, Darren Gough and Phil Tufnell put the Kiwis on the defensive with one wicket each late in the day.

Cork produced a lively new-ball burst to have Bryan Young taken at fourth slip, after a juggle, by Nasser Hussain for three.

Blair Pocock went shortly afterwards, leg-before-wicket to a full length delivery from Gough, and the game swung significantly England's way three overs before stumps.

Then first-innings century-maker Stephen Fleming was out, straddling forward to Tufnell. The ball popping up to John Crawley at short leg to the undisguised delight of the English players.

The pitch is still playing comfortably, although there is uneven bounce and slow turn for left-arm spinner Tufnell.

Scoring runs won't be easy, but England are preparing to have to dig out the New Zealand batsmen on Tuesday.

This is a test match there to win and it will not be easy, England coach David Lloyd said Monday.

"We've got to bowl straight, and put great demands on their batsmen. I know who I'd rather be tonight and that's us, but we've got a long hard day's work ahead."

Until the final hour, all the signs were that the match would draw on for a draw.

Starting the day at 366 for six, left-hander Graham Thorpe and Cork went through untroubled until lunch, thereby shutting New Zealand out of the match. They added 82 in the two-hour session, with Thorpe going to his third Test century.

After a circumspect start, he raced through the 90s with four boundaries in the space of two

Danny Morrison overs, getting to three figures with a fine drive to the cover fence.

None of the New Zealand bowlers was able to be anything other than steady, and that wasn't sufficient to dislodge either batsman.

Thorpe's innings ended at 119 in unusual circumstances. He got a leading edge to a ball from all-rounder Chris Cairns and it lobbied between three players and fell to the ground.

However, Thorpe lost his footing and his right foot knocked the balls off.

It was the first time he had been out hit wicket and it ended a highly professional, polished innings, which lasted 245 balls and included 17 boundaries.

His partnership with Cork had produced 114 in 177 minutes. Cork went to his second test half-century but just when England should have pushed on

Scoreboard at the end of the fourth day of the first cricket test between New Zealand and England on Monday:

**NEW ZEALAND:** First innings 390 (S Fleming 129, B Pocock 70, D Gough 4-91)

**ENGLAND:** First innings Knight lbw b Doull 5  
Alherton c and b Patel 33  
Stewart c and b Doull 173  
Hussain c Fleming b Patel 8  
Thorpe hit wkt b Cairns 119  
Crawley run out 14  
White lbw b Vaughan 0  
Cork c Young b Morrison 59  
Gough c Germon b Morrison 2  
Mullally c Germon b Morrison 21  
Tufnell not out 19  
Extras: (lb-12, b-2, nb-2, w-2) 18  
Total: (187.4 overs) 521

**Fall of wickets:** 1-18; 2-200; 3-222; 4-304; 5-339; 6-339; 7-453; 8-471; 9-478.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Morrison 24.4 4 104 3  
Doull 30 10 118 2  
Cairns 30 3 103 1  
Astle 14 3 33 0  
Vaughan 36 10 57 1  
Patel 44 10 92 2

**NEW ZEALAND:** Second innings Pocock lbw b Gough 20  
Young c Hussain b Cork 3  
Parore not out 16  
Fleming c Crawley b Tufnell 9  
Germon not out 4  
Extras: (nb-4) 4  
Total: (3 wks in 29 overs) 56  
Fall of wickets: 1-17; 2-28; 3-47.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Cork 7 3 17 1  
Mullally 7 4 5 0  
White 3 1 6 0  
Gough 7 1 16 1  
Tufnell 5 1 12 1

**GRAHAM THORPE .... 119** for quick runs, the pace slowed to a crawl.

The first hour after lunch produced only 28 runs in 15 overs. Gough was caught behind off Morrison, and Cork and Alan Mullally managed just seven runs in 35 balls for the ninth wicket before Cork fell to a brilliant catch by Bryan Young.

Yardley's high hopes

**PERTH, Jan 27:** Sri Lanka are poised to dominate the world cricket scene by becoming the premier Test-playing nation by the turn of the century, new coach Bruce Yardley said Monday, reports AP.

The former Australian off-spinner, who was in Colombo for a week in his challenging role, said he believed the resources and depth were sufficient for the lofty goal to be achieved.

"They've got a dream of being the top Test nation in the world by the year 2000," Yardley said. "They really want to achieve that and I can't see what it cannot be achieved."

The interest in cricket there is just enormous and the players can't go anywhere without being noticed.

Sri Lanka stunned the cricket world last year when they beat Australia effortlessly to claim the World Cup.

However, in three minor tournaments following the World Cup, Sri Lanka failed to recapture their best form and coach Day Whatmore resigned.

Yardley accepted a two and a half year contract under which he will lead Sri Lanka into their World Cup defence in England in 1999.

Yardley admitted he was pleasantly surprised on his rival in Sri Lanka at how well the cricket programme was progressing.

"Day Whatmore has left it in pretty good shape and things are very much in place," he said. "The players are very fit and looking forward to the upcoming tour of New Zealand."

Sri Lanka will tour New Zealand in February for two Tests and three limited-overs matches.

Goran at number 2

**MONTE CARLO, Monaco, Jan 27:** Boris Becker dropped to No. 13, his lowest spot in three years, in the latest ATP Tour Rankings released Monday while Goran Ivanisevic rose to the second spot, reports AP.

Becker won the Australian Open in 1996 but lost in the first round of this year's tournament to cause the drastic drop from No. 6. The last time he was lower was in Feb. 1994 when he was 14th.

If Becker continues to fall, it would be his worst placement since June 1985, just before he won Wimbledon as an unseeded 17-year-old.

Ivanisevic took advantage of Michal Chang's drop from second to fourth to move into the runner-up spot behind Pete Sampras, who won the Australian Open title.

Ivanisevic had made the No. 2 ranking once before, in July 1994 just after he lost in the Wimbledon final to Sampras.

Carlos Moya, the Spaniard who beat Becker and Chang in Australia and lost the final to Sampras, moved into the top 10 for the first time at No. 9 from No. 25.

Andre Agassi, who won the Australian Open title in 1995 but was not entered this year, dropped to No. 12 from No. 8.

Prosecutor to appeal Peter's sentence

**MANNHEIM, Germany, Jan 27:** The prosecutor of Steffi Graf's father said Monday the state is appealing the sentence the Mannheim High Court gave last week in the Multi-Million-dollar tax evasion case, reports AP.

"Before the working day ends," the appeal of the three-year, nine-month sentence Peter Graf received Friday will be on its way to the Federal Appeals Court in Karlsruhe, Prosecutor Hubert Jobski told the news agencies.

Jobski also said that the investigation of Steffi Graf, put on hold during her father's trial, would proceed more quickly now. And he confirmed weekend news reports that he is also examining evidence to see if criminal investigations should be opened against some of the world women's tennis champions' sponsors.

Graf, 58, was convicted of evading 12 million marks (7.3 million dollars) in taxes on his daughter's earnings from 1989-1993, and attempting to evade paying another 3 million marks (1.8 million dollars).

The prosecutor is also appealing the 30-month sentence given to Joachim Eckardt, 48, the former Graf family tax adviser, who was convicted of attempted tax evasion and being an accessory.

Prosecutors had asked that Graf be sentenced to six years and nine months in prison, and Eckardt to four years and nine months.

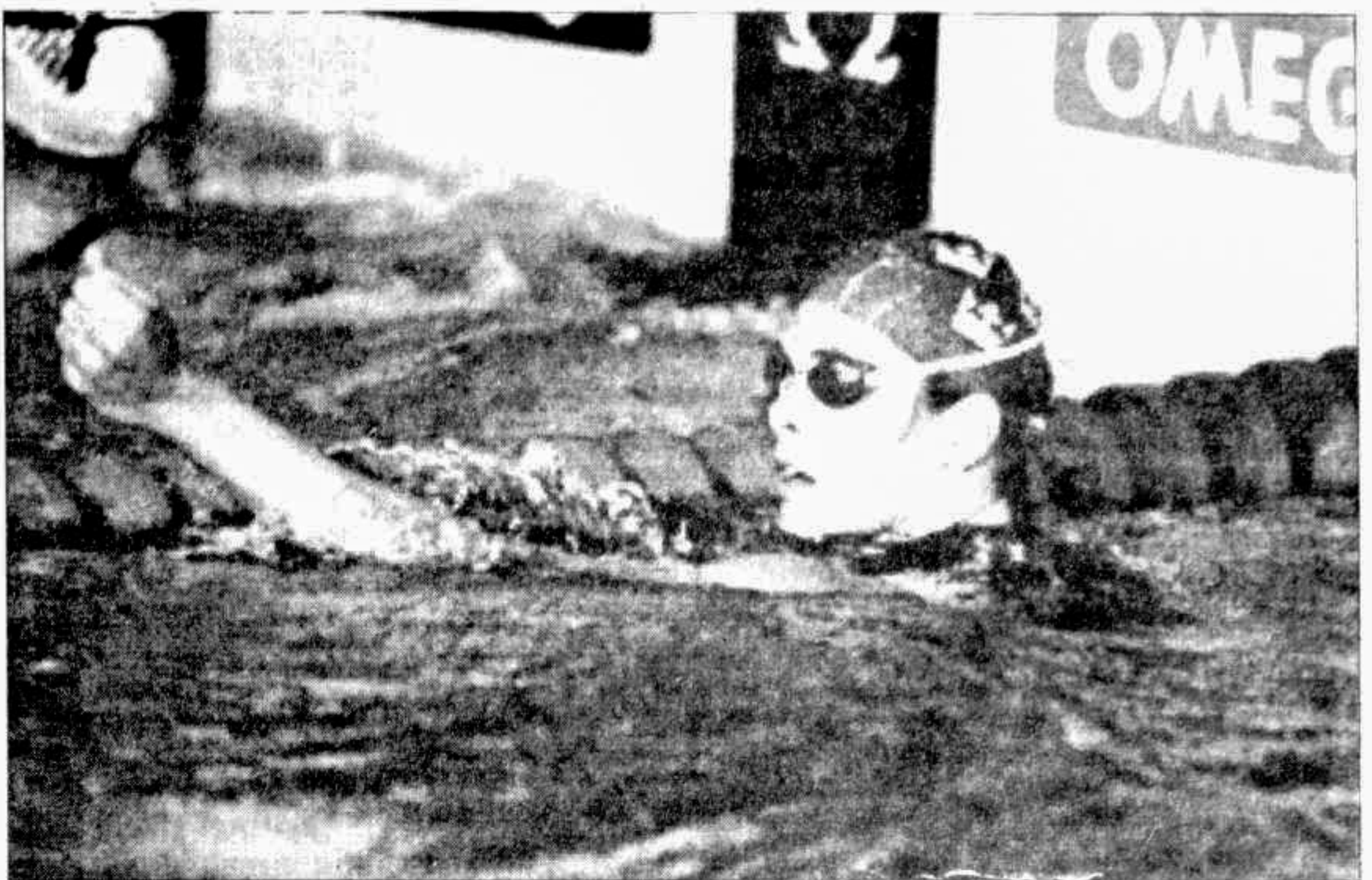
Both men remain free on bail during the appeal process, which takes several weeks just to get the documents to the higher court.

Chief Judge Joachim Pless, who presided over the Peter Graf trial, had recommended the investigation of Steffi Graf be dropped, saying there was no evidence she had played "an active part" in the tax evasion.

But Jobski said the probe of Steffi Graf had only been put on temporary hold, but would now be handled as quickly as possible.

Jobski didn't specify the sponsors he was looking at, but news reports named Aidas, Dunlop and Suedmilch, a German milk products company.

The reports said the companies were suspected of showing willful ignorance to payments to Steffi Graf to her father's mailbox account in the Netherlands to hide German tax authorities.



Swedish Louise Karlsson exults after equalling her own world record in 100m individual medley at a World Cup meet in Malmo, Sweden on Jan 26. The record stands at one minute 01:03 seconds. — Reuter/UNB photo

Louise back with a bang



**MALMO, Sweden, Jan 27:** Swedens Louise Karlsson equaled her own 100 metres individual medley world record at a World Cup meeting on Sunday, reports agencies.

The 22-year-old Swede recorded a time of one minute 01.03 seconds, three seconds ahead of Danish runner-up Britta Vestergaard, and appears to be back to her 1992 form when she set the world record at Espoo, Finland.

In the men's 800m free, Germany's Jorg Hoffmann broke the European record with a time of 7:38.24. Michael Gross of Germany had set the old mark of 7:38.75 at Bonn, Germany, 12 years ago.

Karlsson competed here this weekend for the first time since taking a seven-month break after the Atlanta Olympics because of bronchitis problems.

Two weeks of training in South Africa helped Karlsson regain her form.

"I've never had a better camp," she said. "Normally, I rest a couple of days during such a long camp, but this time I trained every day."

The 100m medley is not on the programme during the World Short Course Championships at Goteborg, Sweden, in April. Karlsson is expected to enter the 200m medley and relays.

She also won the 50 metres breaststroke in 31.63 seconds, finishing over a second ahead of Britain's Jaime King.

Finland's Vesa Hanski added to Nordic delight by winning the men's 100 metres butterfly in 53.40 seconds after a close battle with Australian Michael Klim who clocked 53.42.

Klim headed a strong Australian team which dominated the two-day event, and won the men's 200 metres freestyle in 1:45.99 - nearly a second ahead of Sweden's former world record holder Anders Holmertz.

The Australians cheered Natasha Bowron to victory over China's Guo Wei in the 400 metres freestyle and Matthew Dunn and Robert Van Der Zant were first and second in the men's 200 metres medley.

Compatriot Adrian Radley, however, was disqualified in the 200 metres backstroke final for swimming more than 15 metres under water at the start. Having clocked the fastest trials time, Radley saw Briton Adam Ruswood declared winner of the final in 1:57.07.

The Chinese faced another upset in the women's 200 metres breaststroke where Belgian Birgitte Becue edged out Mi Tong to win in 2:28.10.

Miji elected water polo ref

The Asian Swimming Federation (ASF) has elected M. Shahjahan Miji, treasurer of Bangladesh Swimming Federation, as a water polo referee, reports UNB.

Miji is among the water polo referees recently elected by the Water Polo Technical Committee from 20 Asian countries.

He is the first Bangladeshi who has been honoured with the post.

Finals fail to fill the bill



**MELBOURNE, Jan 27 (AP)** For drama, the finals of the Australian Open turned out to be a dud, Pete Sampras and Martina Hingis winning so eas-

ily that their matches were as lifeless as a can of flat balls that drew so many complaints.

From a historical perspective and for a glimpse at the future, the year's first Grand Slam tournament couldn't have asked for more.

Sampras captured his ninth major surpassing Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl and leaving him behind only Bjorn Borg's 11 in the Open era. Bill Tilden, who won 10 majors in the 1920s and 1930s, is the next target.

Only 25 years old, with no thought of retirement in mind, Sampras almost certainly will win more majors than any man in history before his career is over.

"As far as the numbers are concerned, I'm not too consumed with it," Sampras said after dispatching young Carlos Moya of Spain 6-2, 6-3, 6-3 Sunday.

"Sure, when you look back at your career, that's what stands out, the Grand Slam titles. I feel like I've got a lot of good years left in me and, sure, I want to win more of them. But I'm not consumed with Bill Tilden or Roy Emerson or Rod Laver."

The French is the one that's missing, and I'll do whatever I can this year, and maybe get lucky, like here, and win."

For the 16-year-old Hingis, her first major title fulfilled the dreams of a lifetime and per-

haps heralded her future dominance of the women's game. No. 2 now after beating Mary Pierce in straight sets in the final Saturday. Hingis is aiming for Sat the top sport this year.

Steffi Graf, despite her fourth-round loss, is still No. 1

and the best when she's healthy. But at 27, after spending more than half her life on the pro tour and battling injuries constantly in recent years, Graf's desire to keep playing may be waning.

Monica Sales also has been hampered by frequent injuries and a diminishment of her fighting spirit. She didn't defend her Australian Open title because of a broken finger, and it remains to be seen whether she ever will play as well as she did before she was stabbed in 1993.

But just as Hingis showed she has the talent to win major, so too did several men who burst into prominence over the past two weeks.

Chief among them was Moya, only 20 years old and already a finalist and top 10 player after one undistinguished circuit of the Grand Slams last year.

"I was very impressed with the way he played, beating Boris (Becker), beating Michael (Chang) pretty handily," Sampras said.

"He's got a big game, a big serve, and he backs it up with some big ground shots. And he's got a pretty good attitude. So he's someone that's going to be around for a lot of years."

"He's a bit of a marked man now, he's in the top 10, people are going to be gunning after him. That's something that as a young guy I experienced winning the (US) Open at 19. It's a little tough to cope with that. But I think he has a good head on his shoulders, and he will just get better the more matches he'll play. He learned quite a bit playing today."

Another player who learned a lot from losing to Sampras, but showed just as much promise as Moya, was 19-year-old Dominik Hrbaty of Slovakia. On a sweltering day, Hrbaty nearly beat Sampras in the quarterfinals before succumbing in five sets.

Anyone who saw that match would not be too surprised to see Hrbaty in a Grand Slam final sometime over the next year.

European soccer scene

**PARIS, Jan 27:** It was make or break time on top of the major European leagues this weekend—the pacesetters keeping up the pressure while rivals slipped up, reports AFP.

In Italy, Juventus kept their four-point lead over Sampdoria after scoring a comfortable 3-1 win over Reggiana. But both AC Milan and Inter Milan failed to win.

Front-runners Real Madrid and Barcelona went on scoring sprees in Spain while John Toshack's unhappy Deportivo crashed to bottomside Extremadura.

And in France, leaders Monaco outclassed second-placed Paris St Germain 2-0 to open up a seven-point gap over the Parisians.

Sampdoria blasted Perugia 5-2 thanks to their goal machines — Roberto Mancini and Vincenzo Montella. Juventus have 36 points to Sampdoria's 32.

Once again the spotlight fell

Howe's new assignment

**LONDON, Jan 27:** Don Howe, one of the most respected coaches in English football, has been named as assistant to technical director Howard Wilkinson in the Football Association's new coaching set-up, reports AFP.

The 61-year-old, who worked alongside Bobby Robson and Terry Venables, was surplus to Gleen Hoddle's requirements with the senior side, but was given the national coach's backing to take the key role of technical co-ordinator.

"In my estimation, Don Howe is up there with the best coaches in the world," said former Leeds boss Wilkinson on Sunday. "There is no-one better versed in the latest developments in coaching throughout the world."

Howe's job will be to improve coaching and handle research and innovation under Wilkinson.

Looking ahead to next month's Wembley World Cup showdown with Italy, Howe said: "If you are measuring the Premiership with Italian football I would now argue there is no great, real difference."

Virgil Dariusz bout Mar 22

**HAMBURG, Germany, Jan 27:** America's WBA and IBF light heavyweight champion Virgil Hill is to challenge Dariusz Michalczewski of Germany for his WBO crown on March 22, it was announced here on Sunday, reports AFP.

Hill, who will receive four million deutsch marks (2.5 million dollars), beat Michalczewski's compatriot Henry Maske for the IBF title in November.

Hill, 31, and a silver medalist at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics as a mid-weight, has suffered only one defeat in a 44 professional fight career.

The 28-year-old Michalczewski has made nine successful defences of the title in his career haul of 33 victories.

On the same card Graziano Rocchigiani, the WBO cruiserweight title holder, will fight the American John Scully.

Barcelona's prolific Brazilian forward Ronaldo displays the FIFA 1996 World's Best Player trophy before a Spanish First Division match against Rayo Vallecano on Jan 26. — AFP/UNB photo

on the Milan clubs. Milan slumped to a 3-1 defeat at Verona, whom they had thrashed 4-1 earlier in the season, while Inter needed a second-half Youri Djorkaeff penalty to share a draw with Udinese.

AC Milan's defeat, their seventh in the league this season, dragged them into the bottom half of the table and they are now 11 points behind the leaders.

Vicenza, fourth at start of play, leap-frogged Inter in the table when they saw off Fiorentina 3-2.

**SPAIN**  
Spain's legendary Real Madrid stayed three points clear of bitter rivals Barcelona, and seven points in front of third-placed Deportivo when they scored a no-nonsense 4-0 win over Celta Vigo.

Revitalised by former AC Milan coach Fabio Capello, Real carried on from where they left off after last week's 4-1 Madrid derby triumph. Croatian striker Davor Suker scored his 14th of the season and Spanish prodigy Raul scored a superb individual goal — his 10th in the second-half.

Brazilian full-back Roberto Carlos, formerly at Inter, and Argentinean playmaker Fernando Redondo also got onto the scoresheet.

Barcelona went two goals better, crushing Rayo Vallecano

6-0 thanks to a hat-trick from their brilliant Brazilian striker Ronaldo and another goal from former Real Madrid star Luis Enrique.

Real have 49 points. Athletic Bilbao also recorded a big win. They hammered Hercules 5-0.

**FRANCE**  
Champions Auxerre held on to score a 3-2 win at Caen. Anton Sibierski (20 min), Frederic Danjou (65) and a Stephane Moreau own-goal (69) had given Guy Roux's side a three-goal cushion but third from after bottom Caen almost snatched a point in a late flurry.

Bastina lost the chance to keep in touch with Monaco when they crashed 1-0 at Marseille. Xavier Gravelaine scored the Marseille goal on the stroke of half-time to push his side back into the top half of the table.

Fourth-placed Bordeaux moved to within two points of the Corsicans and four of second-placed Paris Saint Germain by hammering struggling Nice 4-1.

Fifth-placed Strasbourg remain level on points with Bordeaux after overcoming Rennes 3-0.